

BLACK BEAR

1990

HUNTING REGULATIONS STATE OF MONTANA



General Regulations

These regulations apply to all legally described Black Bear Hunting Districts.

Licenses — The following licenses are available at all Fish, Wildlife and Parks Offices and most license agents throughout the state.

Conservation License (Prerequisite)	\$ 2.00
Resident Black Bear License	\$ 8.00
Nonresident Black Bear License	\$120.00

A black bear license is included in the resident Sportsman's License and the nonresident Big Game Combination License.

Baiting — It is illegal to bait bears or to hunt bears with dogs.

Game Limit — Sportsmen may legally harvest one black bear per license year. Female bears with young and individual cubs may not be harvested.

Hunter Education — Both resident and nonresident youths 12-17 years of age must provide a Certificate of Competency in the safe handling of firearms before they may purchase a hunting license. **Archery hunters** are required, in addition to firearm safety, to provide a Certificate of Competency in the safe handling of bow hunting tackle from the National Bowhunter Education Program.

Hunting Hours — Hunting hours begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset. See official sunrise-sunset table in the 1990 Big Game Hunting Regulations.

Landowner Permission — Sportsmen pursuing black bear must secure permission from the landowner, lessee or their agent before hunting on private property, even if the land is not posted.

Mandatory Reporting Requirements — Within 10 days of harvesting a black bear, the successful hunter must present to an official of the department, the bear skull for removal of a tooth (used to determine age). See exception listed under the 500 series districts.

Required Clothing Color — Any person hunting or accompanying a sportsman as an outfitter or guide must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) material above the waist, visible at all times.

Attention Archers: Archers must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange while hunting in any hunting district where firearms are also permitted to be used. The hunter orange requirement is not in effect during the special archery seasons, which are specifically listed in these regulations as: ARCHERY ONLY.

Sale of Game Parts — It is unlawful to sell or purchase any part of a black bear except as specifically permitted by the laws of Montana.

Tagging — Immediately after harvesting a black bear, sportsmen must cut out the proper month and the day of the harvest from the appropriate license/tag and attach to the animal in a secure and visible manner. If more than one date is cut out, the license is invalid. The properly validated license shall remain attached to the hide until tanned.

Sportsmen harvesting a black bear must leave evidence of sex naturally intact on the hide, and if required by the Department, must physically go back to the kill site for inspection.

CLOSED TO ALL BEAR HUNTING

GENERAL RANGE OF GRIZZLIES IN MONTANA



NOTICE OF BLACK BEAR CLOSURE Portion of Hunting District 141

By order of the Montana Fish and Game Commission, the following described area in Flathead County shall be closed to all hunting of black and grizzly bear.

Beginning at the Java railroad trestle crossing U.S. Highway 2 at the Glacier National Park entrance, thence easterly along U.S. Highway 2 to U.S. Forest Service trail number 155 (Big River trail), thence southerly along said trail to trail number 489 (Edna Creek - Tranquil Basin trail), thence easterly along said trail to the divide between Spruce Creek and Tranquil Basin, thence easterly along said divide and continuing easterly along the divide between Devil, Moose, Goat, and Lynx creeks to a point above Geifer Lake, thence northerly along the divide between Devil Creek and Grizzly Creek to U.S. Highway 2 at the Geifer Creek bridge, thence north-easterly along said highway to the Fielding Road, thence northerly along said road to the Glacier National Park boundary, thence southwesterly along said boundary to the point of beginning.

BEAR HUNTERS — Know Your Target!

Look for a combination of characteristics

Straight
face
profile

No hump

Shorter,
darker
claws

BLACK BEAR

Dished
face
profile

Hump

Ruff of long
hair in spring
and fall

Long,
lighter
claws

GRIZZLY BEAR

Color and size are sometimes misleading

Be Sure Before You Shoot!!!

Black Bear — General Season

- All black bear licenses are valid for the specified districts and seasons as listed below.
- All districts listed below shall be open to hunting of black bear of either sex.
- The following areas are closed to black bear hunting:
 - 1) All State Game Preserves,
 - 2) All hunting districts beginning with the number 6 and 7,
 - 3) Gallatin Closed Area (boundary description on page 8 of the Legal Descriptions), and
 - 4) Hunting privileges on Indian Reservations are limited to tribal members only.

There are no bear harvest quotas/female sub-quotas in all 100-400 series black bear hunting districts. Bear harvest quotas/female sub-quotas do occur in the 500 series districts.

100 SERIES DISTRICTS — General Season

Apr. 15 - May 31
Sept. 1 - Nov. 25

Exceptions for hunting district

100, 101, } Apr. 15 - May 15
103, 121, } Sept. 1 - Nov. 25
122 & 123 }

Hunting district 141 - Snowslip Corn Spill Area closed to all hunting of black bear.

200 SERIES DISTRICTS — General Season

Apr. 15 - May 31
Sept. 1 - Nov. 25

Exceptions for hunting district

204	May 15 - May 31	Threemile Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 204)
261	May 15 - May 31	Calf Creek Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 261)
282	May 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 11	Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife Management Area Only
284	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	ARCHERY ONLY ARCHERY ONLY
293	May 15 - May 31	Nevada Lake Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 293)

300 SERIES DISTRICTS — General Season

Apr. 15 - June 15
Sept. 1 - Nov. 25

Exceptions for hunting district

Gallatin Closed Area buffer zone adjacent to Yellowstone National Park - closed to all hunting of black bear

313	Deckard Flats portion of hunting district 313 as posted, subject to closure of all hunting on 24-hours notice.	
316	Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	

400 SERIES DISTRICTS — General Season

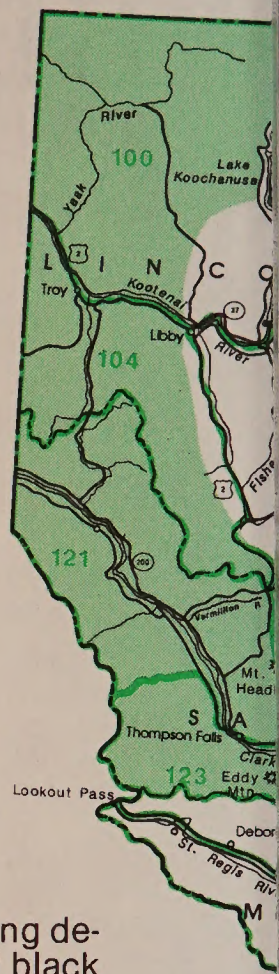
Apr. 15 - Nov. 25

Exceptions for hunting district

420	May 15 - Nov. 25	Judith River Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 420)
422	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	
424	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	
425	Apr. 15 - May 31	
425	May 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	Sun River Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 425)
427	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	Closed to all bear hunting when elk quota in hunting district 442 is reached or November 25, whichever occurs first.

**CLOSED TO ALL
BEAR HUNTING**

**GENERAL RANGE OF
GRIZZLIES IN MONTANA**



NOTICE OF BLACK BEAR CLOSURE
Portion of Hunting District 141

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BEAR HUNTERS — — Know Your Target!

Look for a combination of characteristics



Color and size are sometimes misleading

Be Sure Before You Shoot!!!

BLACK BEAR HUNTING DISTRICTS

**CLOSED TO ALL
BEAR HUNTING**

**GENERAL RANGE OF
GRIZZLIES IN MONTANA**

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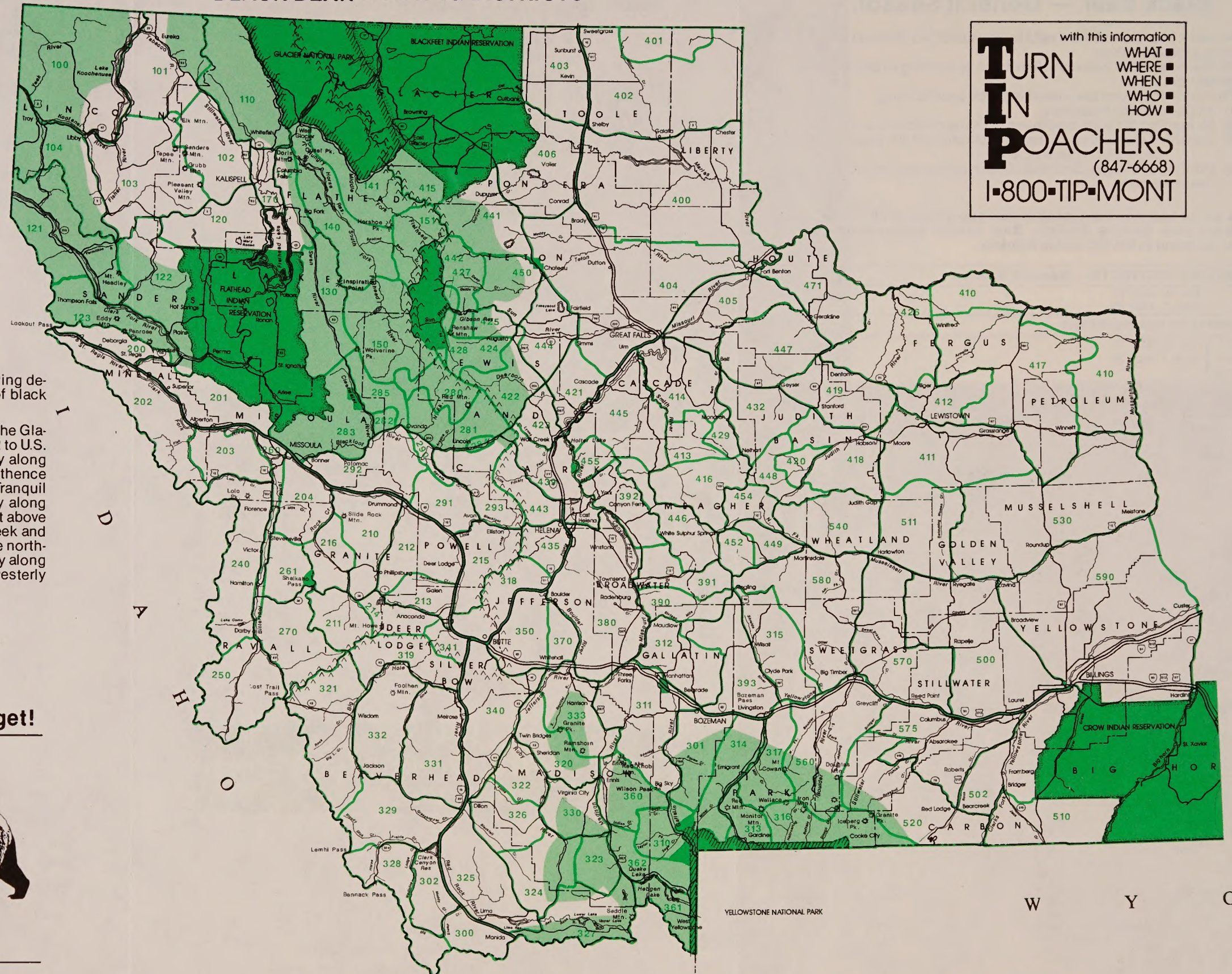
with this information

**TURN
IN
POACHERS**

WHAT ■
WHERE ■
WHEN ■
WHO ■
HOW ■

(847-6668)

1-800-TIP-MONT



General Season (Continued)

428	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	Closed to all bear hunting when elk quota in hunting district 424 is reached or November 25, whichever occurs first.
441	Apr. 15 - May 31 May 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	Blackleaf Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 441)
442	Apr. 15 - May 31 May 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	Ear Mountain Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 442)
443	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	
455	May 15 - Nov. 25	Beartooth Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 455)

500 SERIES DISTRICTS—General Season

HUNTING DISTRICTS (OR GROUPS)	HUNTING SEASONS	BEAR HARVEST QUOTAS	
		TOTAL	FEMALE SUB- QUOTA
500, 511, 530, 540 & 590 }	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	{ 9	3
502, 520, 560 & 575 }	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	{ 25	8
510 }	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	{ 9	3
570 & 580 }	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 1 - Nov. 25	{ 12	4

When the quota or sub-quota is reached in the hunting district(s) or groups, the bear season for that area will close upon 48 hours notice, but no later than last date of season shown in the regulations.

Any person taking a black bear in 500 series districts must report the kill within 48 hours to an official of the department in the administrative region where the kill was made, and must personally present the hide and skull within 10 days to an official of the department for purposes of inspection, recording sex and removing a tooth for aging. The hide and head must be retained even though damaged.

Current harvest information may be obtained by calling the appropriate Fish; Wildlife and Parks Regional Headquarters during normal business hours. Sportsmen may call toll-free 1-800-332-6117, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (MST), during the authorized black bear hunting season to obtain current information on districts closures.

THERE IS NO SPECIAL
“ARCHERY ONLY” SEASON FOR
BLACK BEAR



Montana Department of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks